

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

04011-

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

BOARD ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

November 2, 1943.

On file DOI release instructions apply.

Mr. Kirk H. Stone,
Joint Intelligence Study
Publishing Board,
Room 3808, Munitions Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

has re Board	omparison of the sheets with other map and library sources vealed numerous errors in place name spellings on the maps. The on Geographical Names is interested in having JANIS accept all of the spellings for the following reasons:
	even to the B.A. charts, are very consistent in the proper spellings of names, which makes the sheets comparatively unreliable for reference purposes.
	The Board's spellings and local usage will almost invariably agree. The advantage of this for operations in the field and comparison of JANIS with other reports is obvious. The inconsistency of the names should not be permitted to handloap this advantage
	• Confusion between features is likely to arise if discritical marks are not accepted. For example, Sikole and Sikole refer to different towns and Crni Vrh and Crni vrh to different mountains. This arises from the fact that C.C.S.S.Z. and Z. pronounced ts,ch,ty,s,sh,z and zh respectively, are, in reality, different letters of the alphabet and cannot be used indiscriminately.
	sheets themselves are not consistent in their use of diacritical marks. For example, where two of the sheets overlap, Zur appears on one map and Zur on the other, both referring to the same feature. Some names properly carry the diacriticals; others improperly omit the marks. Spellings should be consistent throughout.
VICTORY	. The value, measured in terms of efficiency of military operations, cost, and intelligibility, of using proper spellings cannot be overestimated.

DOCUMENT NO.

NO CHANGE IN CLASS.

DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE:
AUTH: HB 14-2147A000400040025-4

REVIEWERS

Approved For Release 2002/08/26: Cl & - R

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Approved For Release 2002/08/26: CIA-RDP79-01147A000400040025-4

6. The Board will prepare a guide to the pronunciation of the Romanized names and, if time permits, will provide the proper pronunciation of all place names so that users of the JANIS can talk about the places and be understood by those having first hand knowledge of the area.

Sincerely yours,

Meredith F. Burrill,

Director.